

House File 503 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 503

BY HALL

A BILL FOR

1 An Act providing for a study and report on establishing an
2 online curriculum for uniform transfer of academic credit
3 for certain children under the responsibility of the
4 department of human services.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. ONLINE CURRICULUM FOR UNIFORM TRANSFER OF
2 ACADEMIC CREDIT — STUDY AND REPORT.

3 1. The department of education shall conduct a study
4 regarding the establishment of an online curriculum to
5 facilitate the transfer of academic credits earned by students
6 residing in child foster care facilities licensed under section
7 237.4, and in institutions controlled by the department of
8 human services and listed in section 218.1, between those
9 facilities and institutions and public and accredited nonpublic
10 schools. The goal of the curriculum shall be to minimize
11 wherever possible the loss of academic credit for coursework
12 completed by such students.

13 2. The department shall consider contracting with a
14 private provider to administer the curriculum through a
15 request for bids or proposals, but shall prioritize the use of
16 existing resources such as the Iowa learning online initiative
17 established under section 256.42, and the online learning
18 program model established under section 256.43, for such
19 administration.

20 3. Instruction provided through the online curriculum shall
21 be taught by teachers licensed under chapter 272. All courses
22 in the online curriculum shall meet existing accreditation
23 standards.

24 4. The department shall submit a report of its findings and
25 recommendations to the general assembly by January 3, 2014.

26 EXPLANATION

27 This bill directs the department of education to conduct a
28 study regarding the establishment of an online curriculum to
29 facilitate the transfer of academic credits earned by students
30 residing in child foster care facilities licensed under Code
31 section 237.4, and in institutions controlled by the department
32 of human services and listed in Code section 218.1, between
33 those facilities and institutions and public and accredited
34 nonpublic schools. The goal of the curriculum shall be to
35 minimize wherever possible the loss of academic credit for

1 coursework completed by such students.

2 The bill directs the department to consider contracting with
3 a private provider to administer the online curriculum through
4 a request for bids or proposals, but to prioritize the use of
5 existing resources such as the Iowa learning online initiative
6 and the online learning program model.

7 The bill provides that instruction through the online
8 curriculum must be taught by teachers licensed under Code
9 chapter 272, and all courses in the curriculum must meet
10 existing accreditation standards.

11 The bill directs the department to report its findings and
12 recommendations to the general assembly by January 3, 2014.